

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2013**



The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM on February 5, 2013. Members present were: Dennis Crandall, Jackie Angove, Ben Johnson, Kirk Johnson, Todd Ristau, Judi Wilson, and Mark Zavinski. Also attending were David Hildebrand, Planner/Development Administrator; Mike Holtz, DPW Director; Cindy Strandburg, Administrative Assistant, and Mary Ann Nau, City Administrator.

VISITORS

Brian Collins – Warren Times Observer
Leian Niviffer – Eagle Scout

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Zavinski and second by Mrs. Wilson, the minutes of the December 5, 2012, regular meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

Election of Officers. Upon motion by Mr. Zavinski and second by Mrs. Wilson, the following slate of officers was unanimously approved to serve until the 2014 organizational meeting:

Chairman	Dennis Crandall
Vice-Chairman	Todd Ristau
Secretary	Jackie Angove

BUSINESS

City Parks Downsizing. Mrs. Nau stated that the City has been tasked with looking at parks and parking lots that could be sold or leased. Mrs. Nau discussed the following parks with the Commission:

Active Parks:

Beaty
Clifford R. Betts Memorial
Municipal Pool
Crescent
DeFrees
Mulberry
Lacy

Mrs. Nau stated that Lacy Park was given/purchased by the City in 2001 by the Warren County School District. Mrs. Nau further stated that the site was previously used as an elementary school and must be used for municipal purposes or it will revert back to the School District if municipal use is not maintained.

**Passive
Parks**

<u>Park Name</u>	<u>Location/Info</u>
Boulevard Park	Fourth Ave
Celeron Park	East St/Water St/PA Ave- Purchased in 1975
Clemons Park	Fourth Ave/Hickory St – Purchased 1966 – Deed restrictions
Fourth Avenue Park	Fourth Ave/Water St
Levee Park	Levee St
Liberty Mall	Liberty St – Santa House
Morck Park	Water St/Seventh Ave – Purchased 1928
PA Ave Parkway	PA Ave W
Point Park	Oak Street – Purchased 1970 with Project 70 Land Acquisition
Reier Park	PA Ave E/Conewango Ave
Wetmore Park	Fourth Ave/Market St – Purchased 1948. Use as public park. No building higher than one story.
Washington Park	Liberty St. Ext

Mrs. Nau asked that each Committee member visit each of the active and passive parks and the Committee will hold a special meeting in March to go over any recommendations and to get a feel for what they would want to see happen with each of the parks in the future.

Mr. Rick Johnson stated that from his own experience that once you lose green space it is hard to get it back.

DCNR Grant Application. Mrs. Nau stated that the City is looking into renovating the pool guard/public restrooms with a DCNR Grant. This Grant will allow for renovation of the restrooms so that they will be ADA accessible along with other areas of the facilities such as the first aid room.

2013 Summer Parks Program. Mrs. Strandburg stated that donation letters have been sent out to several local businesses and organizations in hopes of the organizations partnering with the City and helping with the expenses for the 2013 field trips. Mrs. Strandburg stated that she will keep the members apprised of her continuing efforts to offset the expenses of the program.

Pennsylvania Urban Recreation Initiative. Mrs. Nau presented to the Committee three questions that were sent to her from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society who have teamed up and developed the Urban Recreation Initiative. Mrs. Nau read her responses to the three questions that the focus group gave to the urban recreation initiative.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Crandall declared the meeting adjourned.